



The International Treaty

ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE



Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153 Rome, Italy

Mail: pgrfa-treaty@fao.org

Facsimile: +39 0657056347

Telephone: +39 0657055430

Our Ref.: GB6 – Working Group – Observers

22 April 2014

NOTIFICATION

***Ad Hoc* Open-Ended Working Group to Enhance the Functioning of the Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-Sharing**

First Meeting

Geneva (Switzerland), 14 – 16 May, 2014

Dear Madam/Sir,

I have the pleasure to make a further announcement regarding the participation of Observers in the first meeting of the *Ad Hoc* Open-Ended Working Group to Enhance the Functioning of the Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-Sharing (Working Group), in addition to Notification GB6-014¹.

The Terms of Reference of the Working Group, which are contained in Resolution 2/2013, stipulate that Contracting Parties which have no representatives on the Working Group may participate, upon request to the Secretariat, in the work of the Working Group in an observer capacity. For the Working Group's first meeting, the Bureau of the Sixth Session of the Governing Body is inviting up to two representatives from the following stakeholder groups, as observers: civil society organizations; the seed industry; farmers' organizations; and the CGIAR Centres.

Due to capacity constraints, the Secretariat will need to receive the respective requests of those Contracting Parties wishing to participate in the meeting in an observer capacity no later than 5 May 2014, in order to ensure that the appropriate arrangements can be made. Such requests should be addressed to PGRFA-Treaty@fao.org with copy to the National Focal Point or the permanent representation of the country to FAO. Should further issues arise or further potential clarifications become necessary regarding the participation of Contracting Parties as Observers, the Secretary will take the liberty to approach the permanent representations in Rome.

The Governing Body has not envisaged funding to support the participation of Observers to the Working Group.

Others interested in attending this meeting, which pursuant to the respective decision of the Governing Body shall be open-ended, should make a request to the Secretariat at PGRFA-Treaty@fao.org no later than 5 May 2014.

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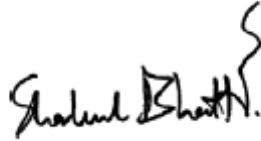
¹ <http://www.planttreaty.org/node/5858>



For any query or request for further information, please contact the Secretariat of the International Treaty at:

Dr Shakeel Bhatti
Secretary
International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
00153 Rome, Italy
Tel: +39 06 5705 3441
Fax: +39 06 5705 6347
PGRFA-Treaty@fao.org

Please accept, Madam/Sir, the assurance of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shakeel Bhatti', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Dr Shakeel Bhatti
Secretary
International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources
for Food and Agriculture